(i) Appointing nominees on Boards of Companies which are showing signs of incipient sickness.

(ii) Intensive monitoring in the case of units which are likely to face problems;

(iii) Periodical inspection/visits and follow up action on the findings of inspection team;

(iv) Scrutiny of progress reports received periodically from assisted concerns; and

(v) Follow-up action on critical information relating to operations, *management etc. of the units reported* by the nominee Directors.

2. The Government have enacted a comprehensive legislation namely. The Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985. A quasi-judicial body designated as 'The Board for Industrial and Financial 'Construction' (BIFR) has been set up under the Act to deal with the problems of sick industrial companies in an effective manner which has become operational with effect from the 15th May, 1987. According to this Act, "a sick industrial company" means an industrial company (being a company registered for not less than seven years) which has at the end of any financial year accumulated losses equal to or exceeding its entire net worth and has also suffered cash losses in such financial year and the financial year immediately preceding such financial year. However in order to cover those categories of units which do not come under the purview of the Act, the Reserve Bank of India have advised the banks to take necessary remedial measures in respect of industrial units at the stage of 50 per cent erosion of their net worth and such units are termed as weak units to distinguish them from sick industrial companies as defined in the Act.

3. The following are some of the important steps taken by the Government for the revival of sick industrial units:—

(i) The Reserve Bank of India have issued guidelines to the banks for strengthening the monitoring systems and for arresting industrial sickness at the incipient stage so that corrective measures are taken in time.

(ii) The banks have also been directed by the Reserve Bank of India to formulate rehabilitation packages for the revival of potentially viable units. The banks and financial institutions evolve rehabilitation packages for the revival of sick units.

(iii) Reserve Bank of India have also issued guidelines separately to the banks indicating parameters within which banks could grant reliefs and concessions for rehabilitation of potentially viable sick units without reference to RBI, both in the large and small scale sectors.

(iv) Government of India introduced a Margin Money Scheme with a view to supplementing the efforts of the State Governments in reducing the incidence of sickness in the small scale sector. Under the liberalised scheme the maximum amount of assistance per unit available to sick small scale units for rehabilitation has been increased from Rs. 20000 to Rs. 50000.

C-DOT Technology

2035. SHRI SHEO KUMAR MISHRA:

SHRI SOHAN LAL DHUSIYA:

SHRI KAPIL VERMA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any developing countries have shown in C-DOT technology; if so, what are the details thereof and what is Government's reaction thereto; and

(b) whether it is a fact that Nepal has asked for installation of two rural automatic exchanges for its Capital; and if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) Yes, Sir. Enquiries about C-DOT technology have been received from Nepal, Kenya, Peru and Algeria. Response to these queries has been deferred till regular commercial production is established in India and relevant contractual and technical aspects for supporting C-DOT technology abroad are finalised.

(b) Yes, Sir. Enquiry has been received from Nepal for examining the feasibility of supplying two rural automatic exchanges for serving two locations near Kathmandu. The technical aspects would have to be examined in consultation with the Nepal Telcommunication Authorities.

Closing of Manmad Sorting Office

2036. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN:
SHRI MOSTAFA BIN QUASEM:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to close down the Manmad sorting office in Maharashtra; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise, in view of answer to part (a) above.

Late Delivery of Maij in Manmad City

2037. SHRI K. MOHANAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the people residing around Manmad City are getting their mail very late; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) One combined delivery is issued at 8 A.M. in Manmad sub-post office There is no report of delay to mails.

(b) The Question does not arise.

Central Industrial Projects in UP

2038. SHRI SURAJ PRASAD:
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of huge Central industrial projects in Uttar Pradesh involving a total investment of over Rs. 5500 crores have failed to come up on Schedule; and

(b) if so, what are the details of these projects and the reasons for their failure?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b) Details of Central Public Sector projects costing over Rs. 4400 crores which have not come up on schedule as obtained from the latest Project Implementation Status Report for the period July to September, 1987, prepared by the Ministry of Programme Implementation are enclosed as Statement. (*See* below). Some of the reasons for delay are as under:-

(i) Inaccurate preparation of feasibility/detailed project reports. The basic assumptions relating to processes, raw material, etc. might not have been made in a scientific manner;

(ii) Inaccurate estimation of quantities of work involved. This may be due to the reason that the actual ground and sub-soil conditions may not have been taken into account in a proper manner.